PATENT APPLICATION
DOCKET NO. 100201141-1

IN THE
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

INVENTOR(S): Gregory Eugene Perkins, et al.

SERIAL NO.: 10/085,927 **GROUP ART UNIT:** 2141

FILED: Feb. 27, 2002 **EXAMINER:** Bayard, Djenane M

SUBJECT: RESOURCE LOCATION AND ACCESS

APPELLANTS'/APPLICANTS' OPENING BRIEF ON APPEAL

1. REAL PARTY IN INTEREST.

The real party in interest is Hewlett-Packard Development Company, LP, a limited partnership established under the laws of the State of Texas and having a principal place of business at 20555 S.H. 249 Houston, TX 77070, U.S.A. (hereinafter "HPDC"). HPDC is a Texas limited partnership and is a wholly-owned affiliate of Hewlett-Packard Company, a Delaware Corporation, headquartered in Palo Alto, CA. The general or managing partner of HPDC is HPQ Holding, LLC.

2. RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES.

There are no other appeals or interferences known to Appellants, Appellants' legal representative or the Assignee which will affect or be directly affected by or have a bearing on the Board's decision in the pending appeal.

3. STATUS OF CLAIMS.

Claims 1-25 are pending. Claims 1-7, 9-15, and 17-25 stand rejected. Claims 8 and 16 have been deemed allowable but stand rejected to as being dependent from a rejected base claim. All pending rejected claims are appealed.

4. STATUS OF AMENDMENTS.

No amendments to the Specification or Claims have been filed after the final action was entered. A revised set of formal drawings has been submitted in which the textual label for reference number 28 in Figure 2 has been changed to "ASSOCIATION MODULE." All other previous amendments have been entered.

5. SUMMARY OF CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER.

Claim 1 recites a method for locating a resource in a computer network that includes providing an interface having instructions to send association data. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraph [0038]. An identity service is identified using the association data. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraphs [0040] and [0041]. The identity service manages resource data. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraphs [0040] and [0041]. The

resource is located using the resource data. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraph [0043].

Claim 5 recites a method for locating a resource for a user in a computer network where that method includes providing an interface having instructions to send association data to two or more association services. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraph [0038]. From the two or more association services, an association service with which the user has established a relationship is identified. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraph [0040]. Using the association data sent to the identified association service, an identity service is identified. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraphs [0040] and [0041]. The identity service manages resource data. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraphs [0040] and [0041]. The resource is located using the resource data. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraph [0043].

Claim 6 recites a method for locating a resource in a computer network that includes providing a web page having instructions to request a web bug. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraph [0036]. The web bug is requested by sending a cookie and an URL for the web page. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraph [0036]. The cookie and the URL are saved for the web page as an entry in an association table. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraph [0036]. Providing the URL for the web page, the association table is queried for the cookie in the entry containing the URL. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraphs [0040] and [0041]. Other entries in the association table containing the cookie are identified. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraphs [0040] and [0041]. From those entries an entry containing an URL for an identification service is identified. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraphs [0040] and [0041]. The identification service manages resource data. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraphs [0040] and [0041]. The resource is located using the resource data. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraph [0043].

Claim 7 recites a method for producing an electronic document where that method includes generating, upon request from a user, a web page having content for requesting a web bug from an association service as well as content for displaying

controls for selecting production options. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraphs [0045]-[0049]. Providing an URL for the generated web page, the association service is queried to identify an identity service with which the user is registered. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraphs [0045]-[0049]. The user's resource data is obtained from the identified identity service. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraphs [0045]-[0049]. A document management service is located and accessed using the resource data. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraphs [0045]-[0049]. Additional content for the web page is provided for displaying controls for selecting a document managed by the document management service. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraphs [0045]-[0049]. A document is produced according to selections made through the web page. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraphs [0045]-[0049].

Claim 9 recites a computer readable medium having instructions for implementing various acts. Those acts include (1) providing an interface having instructions to send association data; (2) identifying an identity service using the association data, the identity service managing resource data; and (3) locating a resource using the resource data. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraphs [0038]-[0043].

Claim 13 recites a computer readable medium having instructions for performing various acts. Those acts include (1) providing an interface having instructions to send association data to two or more association services; (2) identifying from the two or more association services, an association service with which a user has established a relationship; (3) identifying an identity service using the association data sent to the identified association service, the identity service managing resource data; and (4) locating a resource for the user using the resource data. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraphs [0038]-[0043].

Claim 14 recites a computer readable medium having instructions for performing various acts. Those acts include (1) providing a web page having instructions to request a web bug; (2) requesting the web bug sending a cookie and an URL for the

web page; (3) saving the cookie and the URL for the web page as an entry in an association table; (4) querying, providing the URL for the web page, the association table for the cookie in the entry containing the URL; (5) identifying another entries in the association table containing the cookie; (6) identifying, from those entries, the entry containing an URL for an identification service, the identification service managing resource data; and (7) locating a resource using the resource data. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraphs [0036]-[0043].

Claim 15 recites a computer readable medium having instructions for performing various tasks. Those tasks include generating, upon request from a user, a web page having content for requesting a web bug from an association service as well as content for displaying controls for selecting production options and querying the association service to identify an identity service with which the user is registered providing an URL for the generated web page. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraphs [0045]-[0049]. The tasks include obtaining the user's resource data from the identified identity service and locating and accessing a document management service using the resource data. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraphs [0045]-[0049]. The tasks also include providing additional content for the web page for displaying controls for selecting a document managed by the document management service and producing a document according to selections made through the web page. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraphs [0045]-[0049].

Claim 17 recites a system for locating a resource that includes an association module and an application. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraph [0024]. The association module is operable to query an association service, supplying a session identifier, in order to identify an identity service managing resource data. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraphs [0024]-[0026], [0027], and [0040]. The application is operable to (1) provide an interface having instructions to send association data to the association service, the association data to contain a client identifier and a session identifier for the provided interface; (2) acquire resource data from an identity service identified by a query from

the association module; and (3) locate the resource using the resource data. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraphs [0038]-[0043].

Claim 19 recites a document production system that includes an association module and a document production application. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraph [0024]. The association module is operable to query an association service, supplying a session identifier in order to identify an identity service managing resource data. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraphs [0024]-[0026], [0027], and [0040]. The document production application is operable to perform various tasks. Those tasks include providing an interface having content for sending association data containing a session identifier for the provided interface to an association service as well as content for displaying controls for selecting production options. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraphs [0045]-[0049]. The tasks include acquiring resource data from an identity service identifier identified by a query from the association module and locating and accessing a document management service using the resource data. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraphs [0045]-[0049]. The tasks also include providing, for the interface, additional content for displaying controls for selecting a document managed by the document management service and producing a document according to selections made through the interface. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraphs [0045]-[0049].

Claim 20 recites a system for locating a resource where that system includes an identity service, an association server, an association table interface, an association module, and an application. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraphs [0024]-[0028]. The identity service is operable to manage resource data. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraphs [0022] and [0026]. The association server is operable to receive association data containing a client identifier and a session identifier, save the association data in an association table, and receive queries for the association table. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraph [0027]. The association table interface is in

communication with the association server and is operable, according to a received query, to access from the association table a session identifier for the identity service using a session identifier supplied with the query. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraph [0027]. The association module is operable to query, supplying a session identifier, the association service in order to identify the identity service. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraph [0040]. The application is operable to (1) provide an interface having instructions to send association data to an association server, the association data to contain a client identifier and a session identifier for the provided interface; (2) acquire resource data from the identity service identified by a query from the association module; and (3) locate the resource using the resource data. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraphs [0038]-[0043].

Claim 22 recites a document production system that includes a document management service, an identity service, an association server, an association table interface, an association module, and a document production application. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraphs [0024]-[0028] and [0044]. The identity service is operable to manage resource data for locating and accessing the document management service. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraphs [0022] and [0026]. The association server is operable to receive association data containing a client identifier and a session identifier, save the association data in an association table, and receive queries for the association table. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraph [0027]. The association table interface is in communication with the association server and is operable, according to a received query, to access from the association table a session identifier for the identity service using the session identifier supplied with the query. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraph [0027]. The association module operable to query, supplying a session identifier, the association service in order to identify the identity service. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraph [0040]. The a document production application operable to perform various tasks. Those tasks include providing an interface having content for sending association data containing a client identifier and a session identifier for the provided interface to an association service as well as content for displaying controls for

selecting production options. The tasks include acquiring resource data from an identity service using the session identifier for the identity service identified by a query from the association module and locating and access the document management service using the resource data. The tasks also include providing, for the interface, additional content for displaying controls for selecting a document managed by the document management service and producing a document according to selections made through the interface. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraphs [0045]-[0049].

Claim 24 recites a system for locating a resource. That system includes a means for querying, supplying a session identifier, an association service in order to identify an identity service managing resource data. The system includes a means for providing an interface having instructions to send association data to the association service, the association data to contain a client identifier and a session identifier for the provided interface. The system also includes a means for acquiring resource data from an identity service identified by a query and a means for locating the resource using the resource data. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraphs [0024]-[0028] and [0038]-[0043].

Claim 25 recites a document production system that includes a means for querying, supplying a session identifier, an association service in order to identify an identity service managing resource data. The system includes a means for providing an interface having content for sending association data containing a session identifier for the provided interface to the association service as well as content for displaying controls for selecting production options. The system includes a means for acquiring resource data from an identity service identifier identified by a query. The system includes a means for locating and accessing a document management service using the resource data. The system also includes a means for providing, for the interface, additional content for displaying controls for selecting a document managed by the document management service and a means for producing a document according to selections made through the interface. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraphs [0024]-[0028] and paragraphs [0045]-[0049].

6. GROUNDS FOR REJECTION TO BE REVIEWED.

A. Claims 9 and 13-15 stand rejected under 35 USC §101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter.

B. Claims 1-3, 5, 9-11, 13, 17, 18, 20, 21, and 24 stand rejected under 35 USC §102 as being anticipated by US Pub 2003/0074580 to Knouse.

C. Claims 4, 6, 12, and 14 stand rejected under 35 USC §103 as being unpatentable over US Pub 2003/0074580 to Knouse in view of US Pub 2004/0015580 to Lu.

7. ARGUMENT.

Grounds For Rejection A – Claims 9 and 13-15 stand rejected under 35 USC §101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter.

The preamble of each of Claims 9, and 13-15 recites a computer readable medium having instructions for performing various tasks. One can infer from such a preamble, that the claims the computer can read the recited instructions and be caused to perform the recited tasks.

Rejecting Claims 9 and 13-15, the Examiner simply quotes 35 USC §101 and makes the following statement at page 4 of the last Office Action:

> Claims 9, 13-15 are rejected under 35 U.SC. 101 because the disclosed invention is inoperative and therefore lacks utility. Claims 9, 13- 15 should read in the preamble "a computer readable storage medium.

The Examiner fails to explain just how the conclusion is reached that Claims 9 and 13-15 are “inoperable.” As discussed above, each of these claims recites a physical object in the form of a computer readable medium. Each recites that the computer readable medium includes instructions for performs tasks. One cane easily infer that because

the medium is readable by a computer that the computer can perform those tasks upon reading the recited instructions. As such, each of the claims is operable and is directed to statutory subject matter. Furthermore, the applicant is confused as to just how the addition of the term "storage" to the preambles would make any difference.

Grounds For Rejection B – Claims 1-3, 5, 9-11, 13, 17, 18, 20, 21, and 24 stand rejected under 35 USC §102 as being anticipated by US Pub 2003/0074580 to Knouse.

Claim 1 is directed to a method for locating a resource and recites the following acts:

1. providing an interface having instructions to send association data;
2. identifying an identity service using the association data, the identity service managing resource data; and
3. locating the resource using the resource data.

Citing Knouse, the Examiner contends that the act of providing an interface having instructions to send association data is taught by Knouse, para [0017]. That paragraph mentions nothing of providing an interface that has instructions for sending association data. Instead, that paragraph simply mentions that a request from a user to access a resource includes a cookie. The Examiner equates this cookie with the association data recited in Claim 1.

The Examiner then asserts that Knouse , para [0226] teaches the act of identifying an identity service using the association data. That paragraph is reproduced below to illustrate the Examiner's mistake.

> [0226] In one embodiment, the information stored by cookie 1450 includes the authentication level 1452 of the authentication scheme used to create the cookie, the user ID 1454 of the authenticated user, the IP address 1456 of the authenticated user, and session start time 1458 identifying the time at which cookie 1450 was created. If the time elapsed since the session start time 1458 exceeds a maximum session time, the

cookie will become invalid. Idle start time 1460 is also stored, which identifies the time when the previous HTTP request for a protected resource was made in which cookie 1450 was passed. If the time elapsed since the idle start time 1460 exceeds a maximum idle time, the cookie will become invalid. Both of these time limits force users to re-authenticate if they have left a session unattended for longer than the maximum session or idle times. Cookie 1450 also stores a secured hash 1462 of information 1452, 1454, 1456, 1458, and 1460. In one embodiment of the present invention, secured hash 1462 is created using an MD5 hashing algorithm. Most Internet browsers cache a user's supplied authentication information during basic and certificate authentication challenge methods, and then transparently re-send the information upon receiving an authentication challenge from a Web Server. In one embodiment, an administrator can enable a form authentication challenge method requiring end users to re-authenticate upon expiration of the maximum session or maximum idle time limits.

Knouse, para [0226].

The cited paragraph mentions that a cookie includes an authentication level, an authentication scheme, a user ID, the IP address of the user, a session start time, and an idle start time. An example of such a cookie is shown in Knouse's Fig. 37 reproduced below.

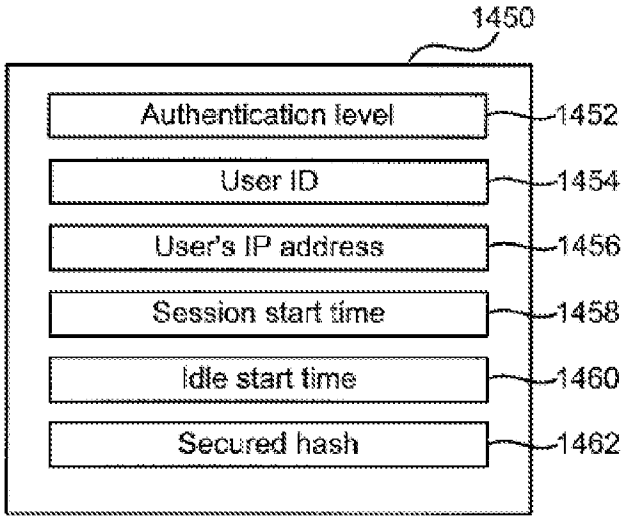

FIG. 37

Plainly, Knouse's cookie does not include any information for identifying an identity service. As such Knouse does not teach identifying an identity service in any manner.

The Examiner then asserts that Knouse, para [0159] teaches an identity service that manages resource data and locating the resource using the resource data. That paragraph is reproduced below to illustrate the Examiner's mistake.

> [0159] FIG. 23 provides a flow chart of a method for determining whether a requested resource is protected (see step 753 of FIG. 22). In one embodiment, the steps of FIG. 23 are performed by resource protected event handler 508 and Access Server 34. In step 830, Web Gate 28 determines whether an entry for the requested resource is found in resource cache 502. If an entry is found, the cache entry is examined in step 842 to determine whether the cache entry indicates that the resource is protected (step 832) or unprotected (step 840). If an entry for the requested resource is not found in resource cache 502, then Web Gate 28 passes the URL of the requested resource request method to Access Server 34 in step 833. Access Server 34 attempts to map the requested resource to a policy domain using URL prefix cache 564 (step 836).

Knouse, para [0159].

The cited paragraph mentions nothing of an identity service that manages resource data or locating a resource using resource data. The paragraph simply describes a method in which a web gate determines if a cache contains an entry for a resource. If so, that cache entry indicates whether the resource is protected or not protected. The cache entry doe NOT include information for locating the resource.

Such information is not needed because the URL for Knouse's requested resource is already known as evidenced by steps 830 and 833 in Knouse's Fig. 23. In step 830 it is determined if the resource is found in the cache. If not, the URL for the resource is sent to an access server in step 833. Plainly, the information for locating the requested resource is already known, so Knouse's "resource cache' is not used to locate a resource.

As such, Knouse also fails to teach or suggest an identity service that manages resource data and locating the resource using the resource data.

For at least these reasons, Claim 1 is patentable over Knouse. Claims 2-4 are also patentable over Knouse due at least in part to their dependence from Claim 1.

Claim 5 is directed to a method for locating a resource for a user and recites the following acts:

1. providing an interface having instructions to send association data to two or more association services;
2. identifying from the two or more association services, an association service with which the user has established a relationship;
3. identifying an identity service using the association data sent to the identified association service, the identity service managing resource data; and
4. locating the resource using the resource data.

Citing Knouse, the Examiner contends that the act of providing an interface having instructions to send association data to two or more association services is taught by Knouse, para [0017]. That paragraph, reproduced below, mentions nothing of providing an interface that has instructions for sending association data let alone instructions for sending association data to two or more association services.

> [0017] Another embodiment of the present invention includes a method for providing access services by an application without a web agent front end The method includes receiving an electronic request from a first user to access a first resource. The step of receiving includes receiving information from a cookie. The application provides the information from the cookie to an access system interface and requests the access system interface to authorize the first user to access the first resource based on information from the user's request and based on the information from the cookie.

Knouse, para. [0017].

The cited paragraph simply mentions that a request from a user to access a resource includes a cookie. The Examiner equates this cookie with the association data

recited in Claim 1. There is absolutely no mentions of sending a cookie to two or more association services.

Citing Knouse, the Examiner contends that the act of identifying from the two or more association services, an association service with which the user has established a relationship is taught by Knouse, para [0217]. That paragraph is reproduced below to illustrate the Examiner's mistake.

> [0217] FIG. 34 provides a flow chart describing a method for performing form authentication (step 1130 of FIG. 30). In one embodiment, the steps of FIG. 34 are performed by authentication event handler 512, redirection event handler 504, browser 12, and authentication module 540. In step 1308, authentication event handler 512 sets a "form login" cookie on browser 12. The cookie includes the URL of the requested resource. Authentication event handler 512 then redirects browser 12 to an authentication form URL (step 1310). In step 1312, Web Gate 28 allows the authentication form referenced by the authentication form URL to pass to browser 12. The user then fills out the authentication form (step 1314) and transmits (e.g. post data) the information from the authentication form (step 1316), passing the form login cookie previously set in step 1308. Authentication event handler 512 then extracts the URL of the requested resource from the form login cookie (step 1318), and passes the user ID and password filled out by the user in the authentication form (submitted as POST data) to Access Server 34 (step 1320).

Knouse, para. [0217].

The cited paragraph simply discusses authentication of a user. It mentions nothing of identifying one of two or more association services with which a user has established a relationship.

The Examiner then asserts that Knouse , para [0226] teaches the act of identifying an identity service using the association data. That paragraph is reproduced below to illustrate the Examiner's mistake.

> [0226] In one embodiment, the information stored by cookie 1450 includes the authentication level 1452 of the authentication scheme used to create the cookie, the user ID 1454 of the authenticated user, the IP

> address 1456 of the authenticated user, and session start time 1458 identifying the time at which cookie 1450 was created. If the time elapsed since the session start time 1458 exceeds a maximum session time, the cookie will become invalid. Idle start time 1460 is also stored, which identifies the time when the previous HTTP request for a protected resource was made in which cookie 1450 was passed. If the time elapsed since the idle start time 1460 exceeds a maximum idle time, the cookie will become invalid. Both of these time limits force users to re-authenticate if they have left a session unattended for longer than the maximum session or idle times. Cookie 1450 also stores a secured hash 1462 of information 1452, 1454, 1456, 1458, and 1460. In one embodiment of the present invention, secured hash 1462 is created using an MD5 hashing algorithm. Most Internet browsers cache a user's supplied authentication information during basic and certificate authentication challenge methods, and then transparently re-send the information upon receiving an authentication challenge from a Web Server. In one embodiment, an administrator can enable a form authentication challenge method requiring end users to re-authenticate upon expiration of the maximum session or maximum idle time limits.

Knouse, para [0226].

The cited paragraph mentions that a cookie includes an authentication level, an authentication scheme, a user ID, the IP address of the user, a session start time, and an idle start time. An example of such a cookie is shown in Knouse's Fig. 37 reproduced below.

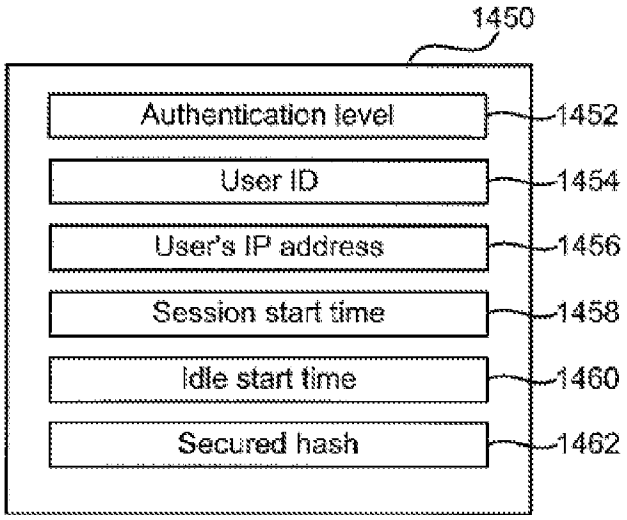

FIG. 37

Plainly, Knouse's cookie does not include any information for identifying an identity service. As such Knouse does not teach identifying an identity service in any manner.

The Examiner then asserts that Knouse, para [0159] teaches an identity service that manages resource data and locating the resource using the resource data. That paragraph is reproduced below to illustrate the Examiner's mistake.

> [0159] FIG. 23 provides a flow chart of a method for determining whether a requested resource is protected (see step 753 of FIG. 22). In one embodiment, the steps of FIG. 23 are performed by resource protected event handler 508 and Access Server 34. In step 830, Web Gate 28 determines whether an entry for the requested resource is found in resource cache 502. If an entry is found, the cache entry is examined in step 842 to determine whether the cache entry indicates that the resource is protected (step 832) or unprotected (step 840). If an entry for the requested resource is not found in resource cache 502, then Web Gate 28 passes the URL of the requested resource request method to Access Server 34 in step 833. Access Server 34 attempts to map the requested resource to a policy domain using URL prefix cache 564 (step 836).

Knouse, para [0159].

The cited paragraph mentions nothing of an identity service that manages resource data or locating a resource using resource data. The paragraph simply describes a method in which a web gate determines if a cache contains an entry for a resource. If so, that cache entry indicates whether the resource is protected or not protected. The cache entry doe NOT include information for locating the resource.

Such information is not needed because the URL for Knouse's requested resource is already known as evidenced by steps 830 and 833 in Knouse's Fig. 23. In step 830 it is determined if the resource is found in the cache. If not, the URL for the resource is sent to an access server in step 833. Plainly, the information for locating the requested resource is already known, so Knouse's "resource cache' is not used to locate a resource.

As such, Knouse also fails to teach or suggest an identity service that manages resource data and locating the resource using the resource data. For at least this reason, Claim 5 is patentable over Knouse.

Claim 9 is directed to a computer readable medium having instructions for implementing the method of Claim 1. For at least the same reasons Claim 1 is patentable, so are Claim 9 and Claims 10-12 which depend from Claim 9.

Claim 13 is directed to a computer readable medium having instructions for implementing the method of Claim 5. For at least the same reasons Claim 5 is patentable, so is Claim 13.

Claim 17 is direct to a system for locating a resource, and recites the following elements:

1. an association module operable to query an association service, supplying a session identifier, in order to identify an identity service managing resource data; and
2. an application operable to:

a. provide an interface having instructions to send association data to the association service, the association data to contain a client identifier and a session identifier for the provided interface;
b. acquire resource data from an identity service identified by a query from the association module; and
c. locate the resource using the resource data.

In short, Claim 17 recites a system capable of implementing the method of Claim 1. For at least the same reasons Claim 1 is patentable, so is Claim 17 and Claim 18 which depends from Claim 17.

Claim 24 is directed to system for implementing the method of Claim 1. For at least the same reasons Claim 1 is patentable, so is Claim 24.

Grounds For Rejection C – Claims 4, 6, 12, and 14 stand rejected under 35 USC §103 as being unpatentable over US Pub 2003/0074580 to Knouse in view of US Pub 2004/0015580 to Lu.

Claim 4 depends from Claim 1. For at least the same reasons Claim 1 is patentable, so is Claim 4.

Claim 6 is directed to a method, in a computer network, for locating a resource and recites the following acts:

1. providing a web page having instructions to request a web bug;
2. requesting the web bug sending a cookie and an URL for the web page;
3. saving the cookie and the URL for the web page as an entry in an association table;
4. querying, providing the URL for the web page, the association table for the cookie in the entry containing the URL;

5. identifying other entries in the association table containing the cookie;
6. identifying from those entries an entry containing an URL for an identification service, the identification service managing resource data; and
7. locating the resource using the resource data.

The Examiner asserts that Knouse, para [0202] teaches the acts of saving the cookie and the URL for the web page as an entry in an association table and querying, providing the URL for the web page, the association table for the cookie in the entry containing the URL identifying an identity service using the association data. That paragraph is reproduced below to illustrate the Examiner's mistake.

> [0202] In the simplest case, all of an e-business host company's Web Servers will be in the same domain (i.e. oblix.com). When a user successfully authenticates at one of the Web Servers, the Web Gate running on the authenticating Web Server causes the Web Server to return an encrypted cookie, indicating a successful authentication. Subsequent requests by the browser to the domain will pass this cookie (assuming the cookie applies to the requested URL), proving the user's identity; therefore, further authentications are unnecessary.

Knouse, para [0202].

The passage clearly mentions NOTHING of saving a cookie and an URL in an association table or providing the URL for the web page to query the association table for the cookie in the entry containing the URL.

The Examiner asserts that Knouse, para. [0156] teaches the act of identifying other entries in the association table containing the cookie. That paragraph is reproduced below to illustrate the Examiner's mistake.

> [0156] FIG. 22 provides a flow chart for one embodiment of a method for authenticating, authorizing, and logging. In step 750, a user's browser 12 requests a web-enabled resource 22 or 24. The request is intercepted by Web Gate 28 in step 752. The method then determines whether the requested resource is protected by an authentication and/or authorization rule in step 753. If the resource is not protected, then access is granted to

> the requested resource in step 795. If the requested resource is protected however, the method proceeds to step 754. If the user has previously authenticated for a protected resource in the same domain, a valid authentication cookie will be passed by browser 12 with the request in step 750 and intercepted by Web Gate in step 752. If a valid cookie is received (step 754), the method attempts to authorize the user in step 756. If no valid authorization cookie is received (step 754), the method attempts to authenticate the user for the requested resource (step 760).

Knouse, para [0156]. This cited paragraph mentions NOTHING of identifying other entries in the association table containing the cookie. The paragraph simply discusses a determination of whether or not a valid cookie is received.

The Examiner asserts that Knouse, paras. [0128]-[0129] teach the act of identifying from those entries an entry containing an URL for an identification service, the identification service managing resource data. Those paragraphs are reproduced below to illustrate the Examiner's mistake.

> [0128] FIG. 14 provides a block diagram of Web Gate 28. In one embodiment, Web Gate 28 is a Web Server plug-in running on Web Server 18. In another embodiment, Web Gate 28 is an NSAPI Web Server plug-in. In another embodiment, Web Gate 28 is an ISAPI Web Server plug-in. In still a further embodiment, Web Gate 28 is an Apache Web Server plug-in. In another embodiment, a plurality of Web Gates conforming to different plug-in formats are distributed among multiple Web Servers.
>
> [0129] Resource cache 502 caches authentication information for individual resources. The information stored in resource cache 502 includes: request method, URL, retainer 505, and audit mask 503. In one embodiment of the present invention, audit mask 503 is a four bit data structure with separate bits identifying whether authentication and/or authorization successes and/or failures are audited (logged) for a given resource.

Knouse, paras. [0128]-[0129].

These paragraphs describe a web gate that is web server or web server plug-in and a resource cache that caches authentication information for resources. Te

paragraphs mention nothing of identifying an entry in an association table that contain an URL for an identification service.

Lu fails to address Knouse's deficiencies noted above. For at least these reasons, Claim 6 is patentable over Knouse and Lu.

Claim 12 depends from Claim 9. For at least the same reasons Claim 9 is patentable, so is Claim 12.

Claim 14 is direct to is directed to a computer readable medium having instructions for implementing the method of Claim 6. For at least the same reasons Claim 6 is patentable, so is Claim 14.

Conclusion: In view of the foregoing remarks, the Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Consequently, early and favorable action allowing these claims and passing the application to issue is earnestly solicited. The foregoing is believed to be a complete response to the outstanding Office Action.

Respectfully submitted,
Gregory Eugene Perkins, et al.

By /Jack H. McKinney/
Jack H. McKinney
Reg. No. 45,685

April 16, 2007

APPENDIX OF CLAIMS INVOLVED IN THE APPEAL

1. (original) In a computer network, a method for locating a resource, comprising:

providing an interface having instructions to send association data;

identifying an identity service using the association data, the identity service managing resource data; and

locating the resource using the resource data.

2. (original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising performing a specified task utilizing the resource.

3. (original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the association data includes a client identifier and a session identifier associated with the interface, and wherein the act of identifying comprises:

providing the session identifier associated with the interface, identifying the client identifier included in the association data;

identifying other association data containing that client identifier; and

acquiring at least a portion of the session identifier included in the other association data.

4. (original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the act of providing comprises providing a web page having instructions to request a web bug sending association data containing a cookie and an URL for the web page; and

wherein the act of identifying comprises:

providing the URL to identify the association data containing the cookie;

identifying other association data containing the cookie; and

acquiring an URL for the identity service from the identified association data.

5. (original) In a computer network, a method for locating a resource for a user,

comprising:

providing an interface having instructions to send association data to two or more association services;

identifying from the two or more association services, an association service with which the user has established a relationship;

identifying an identity service using the association data sent to the identified association service, the identity service managing resource data; and

locating the resource using the resource data.

6. (original) In a computer network, a method for locating a resource comprising:

providing a web page having instructions to request a web bug;

requesting the web bug sending a cookie and an URL for the web page;

saving the cookie and the URL for the web page as an entry in an association table;

querying, providing the URL for the web page, the association table for the cookie in the entry containing the URL;

identifying other entries in the association table containing the cookie;

identifying from those entries an entry containing an URL for an identification service, the identification service managing resource data; and

locating the resource using the resource data.

7. (original) A method for producing an electronic document, comprising:

generating, upon request from a user, a web page having content for requesting a web bug from an association service as well as content for displaying controls for selecting production options;

querying the association service to identify an identity service with which the user is registered providing an URL for the generated web page;

obtaining the user's resource data from the identified identity service;

locating and accessing a document management service using the resource data;

providing additional content for the web page for displaying controls for selecting a document managed by the document management service; and

producing a document according to selections made through the web page.

8. (original) The method of Claim 7, wherein:

the act of generating comprises generating a web page having instructions to request a web bug sending, to the association service association, data containing a cookie and an URL for the web page;

the method further comprises saving the association data as an entry in an association table;

the act of querying further comprises identifying the cookie in the saved entry using the provided the URL, identifying other association data containing the identified cookie, and, from the other identified association data, acquiring an URL for the identity service; and

the act of obtaining the user's resource data comprises obtaining the user's resource data from the identified identity service using, at least in part, the acquired URL.

9. (original) A computer readable medium having instructions for:

providing an interface having instructions to send association data;

identifying an identity service using the association data, the identity service managing resource data; and

locating a resource using the resource data.

10. (original) The medium of Claim 9, having further instructions for performing a specified task utilizing the resource.

11. (original) The medium of Claim 9, wherein the association data includes a client identifier and a session identifier associated with the interface, and wherein the instructions for identifying comprise instructions for:

providing the session identifier associated with the interface, identifying the client identifier included in the association data;

identifying other association data containing that client identifier; and

acquiring the session identifier included in the other association data.

12. (original) The medium of Claim 9, wherein the instructions for providing comprise instructions for providing a web page having instructions to request a web bug sending association data containing a cookie and an URL for the web page; and

wherein the instructions for identifying comprise instructions for:

providing the URL to identify the association data containing the cookie;

identifying other association data containing the cookie; and

acquiring, from the identified association data, an URL for the identity service.

13. (original) A computer readable medium having instructions for:

providing an interface having instructions to send association data to two or more association services;

identifying from the two or more association services, an association service with which a user has established a relationship;

identifying an identity service using the association data sent to the identified association service, the identity service managing resource data; and

locating a resource for the user using the resource data.

14. (original) A computer readable medium having instructions for:

providing a web page having instructions to request a web bug;

requesting the web bug sending a cookie and an URL for the web page;

saving the cookie and the URL for the web page as an entry in an association table;

querying, providing the URL for the web page, the association table for the

cookie in the entry containing the URL;

identifying another entries in the association table containing the cookie;

identifying, from those entries, the entry containing an URL for an identification service, the identification service managing resource data; and

locating a resource using the resource data.

15. (original) A computer readable medium having instructions for:

generating, upon request from a user, a web page having content for requesting a web bug from an association service as well as content for displaying controls for selecting production options;

querying the association service to identify an identity service with which the user is registered providing an URL for the generated web page;

obtaining the user's resource data from the identified identity service;

locating and accessing a document management service using the resource data;

providing additional content for the web page for displaying controls for selecting a document managed by the document management service; and

producing a document according to selections made through the web page.

16. (original) The medium of Claim 15, wherein:

the instructions for generating comprise instructions for generating a web page having instructions to request a web bug sending to the association service association data containing a cookie and an URL for the web page;

the medium having further instructions for saving the association data as an entry in an association table;

the instructions for querying further comprise instructions for identifying the cookie in the saved entry using the provided the URL, identifying other association data containing the identified cookie, and, from the other identified association data, acquiring an URL for the identity service; and

the instructions for obtaining the user's resource data comprise instructions for

obtaining the user's resource data from the identified identity service using, at least in part, the acquired URL.

17. (original) A system for locating a resource, comprising:

an association module operable to query an association service, supplying a session identifier, in order to identify an identity service managing resource data; and

an application operable to:

provide an interface having instructions to send association data to the association service, the association data to contain a client identifier and a session identifier for the provided interface;

acquire resource data from an identity service identified by a query from the association module; and

locate the resource using the resource data.

18. (original) The system of Claim 17, wherein:

the application is further operable to provide the interface in the form of a web page having instructions to send association data containing a cookie and the URL for the provided web page; and

the association module is further operable to provide the URL and query the association service for an URL for the identity service.

19. (original) A document production system, comprising:

an association module operable to query an association service, supplying a session identifier in order to identify an identity service managing resource data; and

a document production application operable to:

provide an interface having content for sending association data containing a session identifier for the provided interface to an association service as well as content for displaying controls for selecting production options;

acquire resource data from an identity service identifier identified by

a query from the association module;

locate and access a document management service using the resource data; and

provide, for the interface, additional content for displaying controls for selecting a document managed by the document management service; and

produce a document according to selections made through the interface.

20. (original) A system for locating a resource, comprising:

an identity service operable to manage resource data;

an association server operable to receive association data containing a client identifier and a session identifier, save the association data in an association table, and receive queries for the association table;

an association table interface in communication with the association server and operable, according to a received query, to access from the association table a session identifier for the identity service using a session identifier supplied with the query;

an association module operable to query, supplying a session identifier, the association service in order to identify the identity service;

an application operable to:

provide an interface having instructions to send association data to an association server, the association data to contain a client identifier and a session identifier for the provided interface;

acquire resource data from the identity service identified by a query from the association module; and

locate the resource using the resource data.

21. (original) The system of Claim 20, wherein:

the application is further operable to provide the interface in the form of a web page having instructions to send association data containing a cookie and the URL for

the provided web page;

the association module is further operable to provide the URL interface and query the association service for an URL for the identity service; and

the association table interface is further operable to locate an entry in the association table containing the provided URL, identify the cookie in the located entry, identify other entries containing that cookie, and, from those other entries, acquire an URL for the identity service; and

the application is further operable to use the acquired URL to acquire resource data from the identity service.

22. (original) A document production system, comprising:

a document management service;

an identity service operable to manage resource data for locating and accessing the document management service;

an association server operable to receive association data containing a client identifier and a session identifier, save the association data in an association table, and receive queries for the association table;

an association table interface in communication with the association server and operable, according to a received query, to access from the association table a session identifier for the identity service using the session identifier supplied with the query;

an association module operable to query, supplying a session identifier, the association service in order to identify the identity service;

a document production application operable to:

provide an interface having content for sending association data containing a client identifier and a session identifier for the provided interface to an association service as well as content for displaying controls for selecting production options;

acquire resource data from an identity service using the session identifier for the identity service identified by a query from the association

module;

locate and access the document management service using the resource data;

provide, for the interface, additional content for displaying controls for selecting a document managed by the document management service; and

produce a document according to selections made through the interface.

23. (original) The system of Claim 22, wherein:

the association table interface is further operable to locate an entry in the association table containing the session identifier supplied with a query, identify the client identifier in the located entry, identify other entries containing that client identifier, and, from those other entries, acquire a session identifier for the Identity service; and

the document production application is further operable to use the acquired session identifier for the identity service to acquire resource data from the identity service.

24. (original) A system for locating a resource, comprising:

a means for querying, supplying a session identifier, an association service in order to identify an identity service managing resource data;

a means for providing an interface having instructions to send association data to the association service, the association data to contain a client identifier and a session identifier for the provided interface;

a means for acquiring resource data from an identity service identified by a query; and

a means for locating the resource using the resource data.

25. (original) A document production system, comprising:

a means for querying, supplying a session identifier, an association service in

order to identify an identity service managing resource data;

a means for providing an interface having content for sending association data containing a session identifier for the provided interface to the association service as well as content for displaying controls for selecting production options;

a means for acquiring resource data from an identity service identifier identified by a query;

a means for locating and accessing a document management service using the resource data;

a means for providing, for the interface, additional content for displaying controls for selecting a document managed by the document management service; and

a means for producing a document according to selections made through the interface.

Evidence Appendix

There is no extrinsic evidence to be considered in this Appeal. Therefore, no evidence is presented in this Appendix.

Related Proceedings Appendix

There are no related proceedings to be considered in this Appeal. Therefore, no such proceedings are identified in this Appendix.